

Sept 26

Dear Mom & Dad (and Mary & Mike),

Life must seem a lot different now with a permanent addition to the family. It's still hard to think of Mary as a mother but apparently it is possible. Luckily the baby is a girl as a boy could hardly stand the pressure of two mothers. I'm sure it is very nice, however, to trade off the work involved with a tiny baby. We're anxious to see Diane and probably will within a year.

I'm sending a clipping we ran across concerning the museum we visited in Taiwan. Maybe you could send it to Vickie's parents after reading it. The museum was quite a highlight in our trip. We bought some rattan furniture in Hong Kong and had it shipped back. It arrived last week and today we drove up to the dock

in Baltimore and picked it up. There is a small table with folding legs, two folding chairs, and a set of three stools. They are all very sturdy and well-constructed. Vickie is having two museum prints framed so our house is taking on an oriental decor.

I ride my bike to work most days and we really enjoy living so close to work while being quite isolated. It is quite peaceful here and we play tennis a lot. Sunday we drove to the mountains and went on a short ($3\frac{1}{2}$ miles) but steep hike. It was clear and cool. We have had no rain for quite a long time. Maybe this Tue we will finally get over to play duplicate bridge. Vickie has studied a lot and really knows the principles well.

Vickie will be trying to get a typing job on the base. After a few months she will be earning the same salary as a teacher. Also, opportunities come up from time to time for better jobs that she can apply for. Our lab has been merged with the Naval Ordnance Lab in Md and as a result hiring and promotions have really slowed down. That is why I'm looking around for jobs in Washington. I applied for a job in the Naval Intelligence Command but the chances are slim that I'll be selected. In any case, I'm not unhappy here.

~~##~~ In two weeks we're planning on a long drive, stopping at our friends near Chicago, continuing on around the Great Lakes to Toronto and then back home. We enjoy Canada a lot and the leaves should be very bright — Jim & Vickie
